

Report to Council – January 30, 2015 - #30/01/15/805

ICSC - North Renfrew County Community Data Study Session held January 13, 2015

I attended this workshop with Gayle Watters as a representative of municipal staff. Betty Condie, a well-known resident and volunteer was also in attendance for the first part of the agenda.

Briefly this local data study is in its first phase of the larger county study. Its aim is to create a community-level understanding of health and well-being, build consensus for a longer term vision for the county data project and provide input from various stakeholders. We worked in small groups to gather our personal understanding on what we thought the most important domains of community health and well-being might be. The 10 domains discussed and ranked by each group were: Natural Environment, Economy, Basic Needs of Housing & Food Security, Learning and Education, Health, Culture and Leisure, Community Vitality, Demographic Profile and Community Assets and Resources.

Our facilitator guided us through the exercise as we shared and recorded our group rankings and discussions. We also reviewed other community mapping projects such as: MyPeg (Winnipeg communities) and ONS (Ottawa Neighbourhood Study). The records of the morning's workshop are presently being compiled and will be distributed to us upon completion, most probably in the spring.

My personal observation has been stated in previous reports, that it is very important for HCM to have representation at sessions such as this. During the morning's discussion, I observed a large gap of understanding between the "rural" realities here as compared to small community living elsewhere. Thank you for the opportunity to represent our residents.

Councillor Debbi Grills